

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the above application. Claims 16-20 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-15 stand rejected.

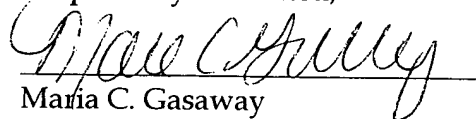
Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement requiring Applicants to elect one invention. Applicants hereby provisionally elect claims 16-20 (Group II) with traverse.

However, while Applicants agree with the Examiner that the subject matter of Groups I-II are independent and patentably distinct, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-20 is sufficiently related and that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

If any questions should arise with respect to the above remarks, or if it would in any way expedite the prosecution of the case, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' agent at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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